



LOVING YOUR CHILD TOO MUCH  
How to Keep a Close Relationship with Your Child Without  
Overindulging, Overprotecting, or Overcontrolling

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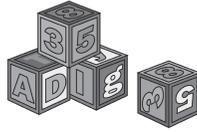
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# chapter one



## Can You Really Love Your Kids Too Much?

### LOVE COMPARISON CHART

PARENTS WHO GIVE HEALTHY LOVE	PARENTS WHO OVERPROTECT	PARENTS WHO OVERCONTROL	PARENTS WHO OVERINDULGE
See children as gifts	See children as fragile	See children as little versions of themselves	See children as possessions
Nurture kids to be unique	Nurture kids to be safe	Nurture kids to be perfect	Nurture kids to be entitled
Are respectful and supportive	Lack respect and are overly supportive	Lack respect for their child	Are overly supportive
Are kind and firm	Are kind, not firm	Are firm, not kind	Are kind, not firm
View mistakes as opportunities to learn	Allow no opportunity for mistakes	Allow no opportunity for mistakes	Believe mistakes do not matter
Practice collaborative problem solving	Believe their kids can't learn to make good decisions	Consider only the parent's will	Consider only the child's will
Believe children are a gift from God	Believe children are a fragile extension of themselves	Believe children are an investment	Believe children are an expense
Give appropriate supervision	Give too much supervision	Give directions and commands	Give no supervision
Encourage feelings and teach empathy	Avoid unpleasant feelings	Do not encourage feelings	Believe feelings are everything
Teach living skills	Teach fearfulness	Teach drivenness	Teach laziness
Get into their child's world	Censor and pry into their child's world	Force their child to enter their world	Let their child rule the world
Teach balance of grace and biblical truth	Teach that the world is dangerous	Teach a theology of works and performance	Teach pride and selfishness

## chapter nine



# Loving Without Overcontrolling

## TEMPERAMENT RATING SCALE

Anxious _____	Laid back _____
Hurried _____	Slow paced _____
Irritable _____	Easy going _____
Quick tempered _____	Slow to anger _____
Jealous _____	Not envious _____
Overly sensitive _____	Tolerates teasing well _____
Embarrasses easily _____	Happy in the spotlight _____
Sulks often _____	Happy disposition _____
Dislikes challenges _____	Prefers challenges _____
Gives up easily _____	Perseveres _____
Serious _____	Funny _____
Inflexible _____	Adaptable _____
Dislikes change _____	Thrives on change _____
Breaks rules _____	Black and white _____
A loner _____	Social _____
Spiteful _____	Loving _____
Dislikes meeting new people _____	Enjoys meeting new people _____
Critical _____	Self-accepting _____
People pleaser _____	Independent thinker _____
Easily distracted _____	Concentrates well _____

## chapter twelve



# Emotion Coaching

### DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE A CHRISTLIKE MIND-SET?

MY CHILD	ALWAYS	SOMETIMES	NEVER
Takes into consideration the concerns and feelings of others (Matthew 7:12)			
Shows compassion (Mark 1:41)			
Can delay gratification (Matthew 4:1-4)			
Can problem-solve (Matthew 22:15-22)			
Will negotiate with others (John 8:7)			
Is flexible (John 2:1-8)			
Can control strong emotions (Mark 14:35-36)			
Is slow to anger (Matthew 26:40-45)			
Is able to experience joy in the moment (John 21:12-13)			
Is able to tolerate discomfort (Matthew 27:32-44)			
Is growing spiritually (John 20:21-22)			

# chapter thirteen



## Effective Discipline for Any Child

ALWAYS	MAYBE	NEVER	IS IT OKAY TO . . .
			<b>SOCIAL</b>
			Tell a parent she has a beautiful baby when she doesn't?
			Tease or scare others?
			Cheat at cards or videogames?
			Let a friend copy your homework?
			Ride in a car with a friend who speeds?
			<b>RELIGION</b>
			Go to a non-Christian place of worship?
			Participate in Halloween?
			<b>PERSONAL</b>
			Try smoking or drugs?
			Have a beer at a party?
			Shave your head?
			Get a tattoo?
			Swear?
			Watch an R-rated movie?
			Kiss a boyfriend/girlfriend?

## chapter fourteen



# EXTRA-EFFORT KIDS

## BEHAVIOR-RATING SCALE

<b>DEFIANT BEHAVIOR</b>	Never	Sometimes	Often	Very Often
Loses temper				
Argues with adults				
Actively defies or refuses to comply with adults' requests				
Deliberately annoys people				
Blames others for his or her mistakes and misbehavior				
Touchy or easily annoyed by others				
Angry and resentful				
Spiteful and vindictive				